

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, between the Title at line 3 and prenumbered line 5, please insert the following new paragraph as follows:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

The present application is the U.S. counterpart of WO 2004/046567, and in turn claims priority to French application No. 02/14517 filed on November 18, 2002, the entire contents of each of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please cancel the original Abstract at page 15, lines 1-16 in its entirety and insert therefor the following replacement Abstract on a separate sheet as follows: